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உடனே மனு கொடுத்து அந்த ஜாமீனை ரத்து செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ள சட்டத்தில் இடம் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் அதுமாதிரி எந்த தகவலும் இதுவரை இல்லை.

Sri K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, rightly or wrongly an impression has been gaining ground in the minds of the common people that the charge-sheet has not been filed against this alleged offender because of the intervention of some highly placed persons in our State. Is there any truth in that statement?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : These rumours are set afloat by persons for their own personal purpose. I do not think, Sir, there is any truth in that rumour as far as I could see.

Sri A. RATNAM : ஸார், ஷண்முக நாடாரும் அவர் மனைவியும் அவரது குமாரர்கள் மூன்று பேர்களும்தான் இந்தக் கள்ளநோட்டு அடித்ததில் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவர்களா? அல்லது இதரர்களும் அதில் சேர்ந் திருக்கிறார்களா? இதுபற்றிய போலீஸ் விசாரணையைப்பற்றி சபை அறிந்து கொள்ள முடியுமா?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : இதில் இதரர்கள் கலந் திருக்கிறார்கள். புலன் விசாரிப்பைப்பற்றியெல்லாம் இங்கே சட்டசபையில் சொல்லுவது என்றால் அவர்களுக்கு இதைப்பற்றி சில தாக்கல்கள் கொடுத்தது மாதிரி ஆகும். ஆகவே இதைப்பற்றி விரிவாக ஒன்றும் கூறாமல் இருப்பதே நல்லது.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : So, I shall pass on to the next question.

Sri V. GOPALA GOUNDER : On a point of order, Sir. The matter is one purely under the investigation of the police and the questions put and answers given in the House may really be prejudicial to the investigation by the police. Therefore, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether it would be proper to answer all these questions to be put in the Court in this House? Already the matter is pending before the Court and it is almost *sub judice*. The accused had been produced before the Court and released on bail and thus the Court has taken cognizance of it in a way. So, will it be proper to put all these questions in this House?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I completely agree with the hon. Member. That is why I could not give very definite answers in respect of certain questions because it is likely to give out useful information even to the accused and to a certain extent it may also prejudice the case of the accused. As a matter of fact, in my answers I tried to avoid both.

*Salary of Agriculture Demonstration maistries of the ex-Pudukkottai State*

9-40 a.m. * 364 *Q*.—Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Agriculture Demonstration maistries of the Agriculture department of the former Pudukkottai State, after its merger with the Madras State are being paid lesser salary than before; and

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(*b*) if so, the number thus affected and the reasons for the reduction?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : May I know whether it is not a fact that two appeals from the Agriculture Demonstration maistries of the Agriculture department of the former Pudukkottai State are pending with the Government with regard to such matters?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : So far as the information I have with me goes, there is one case of a permanent Agricultural maistri who was officiating as a clerk in the former Pudukkottai State and after merger his pay was fixed at a lower scale and not at the higher scale of pay which he was drawing as a clerk. The Government subsequently found that it was a mistake. On the representation of the subordinate, the Government ordered the refixation of the pay of this officer from 1st January 1949 giving the benefits of increments and also arrears of pay.

*Construction of a dam across the Vellar near Sundarapatty village*

* 365 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for dropping the proposal to construct a dam across the Vellar near Sundarapatty village in Tirumayam taluk, Pudukkottai Division, Tiruchirappalli district;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that an estimate was ordered to be prepared; and

(*c*) if so, the amount of the estimate?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) The cost of construction of a masonry dam was prohibitive and not commensurate with the benefits expected.

The ryots were themselves constructing a temporary mud dam every year at a small cost.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) About Rs. 59,000 for works or Rs. 73,000 inclusive of direct and indirect charges.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : When the ayacutdars are willing to contribute towards the cost of construction of the scheme on 50–50 basis, may I know what is the difficulty the Government are experiencing in accepting it? This scheme will have to be taken up particularly because no major work of public importance has been undertaken in Pudukkottai State after its merger with this State and it is very necessary to woo the people sentimentally as regards merger of the State even though it has become a matter of *fait accompli*.